

**Monday, February 5, 2007. Agatha, virgin, martyr**

6:30 Cecile Kelly †  
9:00 Matthew Baruch

**Tuesday, Feb. 6, Paul Miki, martyr, and his companions, martyrs**

6:30 John Fox †  
9:00 John Delaney †

**Wednesday, Feb. 7, Weekday**

6:30 Eugene Zambruski †  
9:00 Mary Eckart †

**Thursday, Feb. 8, Weekday; Jerome Emiliani, priest; Josephine Bakhita, virgin**

6:30 Jerome Kornieck †  
9:00 John Jugovich †

**Friday, Feb. 9, Weekday**

6:30 McGee Family  
9:00 Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Kornieck †

**Saturday, Feb. 10, Scholastica, virgin**

8:15 The Francis Family  
5:00 Vera & Frank Gillespie †

**Sunday, Feb. 11, Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30 Mary Esther Schiff †  
9:00 Alice & Jose Marques †  
10:30 John Duffner †  
12:00 People of the Parish

**Readings for the Week of Week of February 4, 2007**

Sunday	Is 6:1-2a, 3-8; Ps 138; 1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11; Lk 5:1-11
Monday	Gn 1:1-19; Ps 104; Mk 6:53-56
Tuesday	Gn 1:20—2:4a; Ps 8; Mk 7:1-13
Wednesday	Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Ps 104; Mk 7:14-23
Thursday	Gn 2:18-25; Ps 128; Mk 7:24-30
Friday	Gn 3:1-8; Ps 32; Mk 7:31-37
Saturday	Gn 3:9-24; Ps 90; Mk 8:1-10



**Please Pray For**

Ronald Bashion  
Sonja &  
Soraya Borghese  
Esperanza Castillo  
Juan Chirino  
Michael Clarke  
Carol Coad  
Vincent Corcoran  
Edward Cotter  
Estelle Danielson  
Marie Davalos  
John Delaney  
Lucille Dion  
Denis Downey, Jr.  
Bryan Downie  
Pam Dunne  
Wynn Feeney  
Marie Gillespie  
Alex Hargenrader  
Kathleen Harrington  
Charles Harrison  
Gary & Cindy Hogan

Laura Holleran  
Maureen Hollingsworth  
Muriel Jennings  
Mary Johnson  
Billee Jordan  
Blanche Kane  
Kathleen Keane  
Shirley Kelley  
Alice Koutsoumpas  
Katherine Malcolm  
John Malloy  
Annette McGovern  
Kaden T. Messing  
Ferenc Molnar  
Matthew Morgan  
Marilyn Middleton  
Nancy Miller  
Monica Mizerek  
June Nage  
Ernest Oddono  
Kennedy O'Donnell  
John Ozimina  
Al Parsons

Joseph Riotto  
Lois Riscile  
Edelisa Samson  
Margaret Serrao  
Leah Shannon  
Barbara Skylell  
Mary Spann  
Margaret Stimpfle  
Kimberly Strocka  
Eileen Sweeney  
Raymond Vagli  
Mary Wilson  
Siegfried Wolf

**Please let us know  
when you would  
like to be taken off  
the prayer list.**  
Rector's Staff

**From the Pastor**

I want to thank and congratulate the PTO and all those responsible for the fantastic Friday evening last week - the winter ball to benefit St. John Academy. Speaking for myself, I enjoyed the festivities, the food, the atmosphere, the conversation, etc. The English Language does not possess the necessary superlatives to describe my feelings about their great success. I am proud of everyone involved in the efforts.

Speaking of our school, St. John Academy, I would like to address most of the column to those parents who send their children elsewhere or who are considering St. John Academy. The Council of Baltimore (the one which gave us the Baltimore Catechism) long ago held out the vision of every parish having a school and every Catholic child being educated in it. I invite all parents of school age children to consider having them attend St. John Academy.

We have many pluses to recommend us. Our academic progress is excellent. Our faculty is first rate. There is a stability in our senior faculty and a fresh wind of newness with the younger additions. We have increased the male presence in the school. We offer two languages, Spanish and Latin. Our classrooms will soon be outfitted with state of the art equipment, e.g. the active boards.

Our music program is improved with teachers trained in the Ward Method of music instruction. Our children learn Gregorian Chant. They have an opportunity to join the Treble Choir. A not well known fact is that our music director while he was music director at the Catholic Cathedral in Louisville, Kentucky had an excellent group of children's choristers drawn from the Cathedral School. They recorded a CD. We also have several levels of band. Athletics are an important part of the school program. We now have an athletic director and we, besides participating in the diocesan CYO program, are now part of a private school league competing in Virginia, D.C. and Maryland. We compete against such schools as St. Albans, The Heights, Potomac, Holy Child, Georgetown Prep, etc. If your child has athletic promise it is easier to be recognized in this selective league than in a county or CYO league. We also plan on adding lacrosse and soccer.

Continued next page...




**Pastor's Column, Continued...** The Academy employs a counselor made possible by the generous bequest of a parishioner to provide a psychologist on staff for the school.

Finally and most important, our Catholicity shows. Mass once a week for the school and again for different classes, confessions are heard, and priests are visible in the school leading Benediction, Rosary, etc. Our atmosphere is Catholic and we are proud of it. We do, however, welcome non-catholic students and there is no effort to proselytize them. But they do learn about the Catholic Faith. I was disturbed to recently see an ad for a traditional Catholic school which stated "that Catholic Faith is presented to Catholic students. Our Catholicism at St. John Academy is not reserved for Catholics only.

Above all this is the conductor of our school, Peter Schultz, the Head Master whose task it is to make certain everything works for the benefit of all. Interested? Call Mr. Schultz for an appointment. Can't afford it? The parish and the diocese have funds to help those who cannot afford Catholic School. Call or write me about this. God Bless!

 **THE SECOND COLLECTION**  
**THIS WEEKEND IS FOR THE**  
**ARLINGTON HERALD.**

**WOMENS' DAY OF RECOLLECTION:** All ladies of the parish are invited to a Day of Recollection on Thursday March 8th at Marymount University. Father Gary Selin will lead us. The day begins with coffee at 9:15am in the Main House. Conferences, Confession, and a delicious lunch are included. Please sign up in the Church vestibule and leave a check for \$35.00 made payable to St. John the Beloved, with Day of Recollection on the memo line, in the parish office before Thursday, March 1st. Information or reservations: Mary Elizabeth Bergan 703-288-0946

 **OVER 50 CLUB:** Vienna Citizen of the Year, Paul Snodgrass and local author Carole Herrick will join us on Monday, Feb. 19 to discuss state and local plans for the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the founding of the Jamestown settlement. Mass will be at 11:30 am with lunch at noon in the parish hall. Sign-up in the church vestibule. Please leave a check for \$20 payable to St. John, with Seniors on the memo line, in the parish office before Thursday, Feb. 15. For added information contact Nancy Ingrisano at 703-356-5538.



**News from  
"The Word"**

**St. John Parish Book & Gift Shop**

**The WORD will be open on Wednesday evenings, Thursday mornings and Sundays after all the Masses.**

Fr. Gripshover has been teaching classes periodically on praying the Liturgy of the Hours. The WORD is offering the book he recommends for getting started, Christian Prayer, with a beautiful leather zipper cover for only \$30. The next class is February 24.

**THRIFT SHOP NEWS ~ Quality at Bargain Prices:**  
**Tues. - Fri. 11:00 am- 2:00 pm & Sat. 10:00 am-1:00 pm.**

We are continuing our half-price sale on ***All Items; except those specially marked.*** Because of our limited storage space we are currently accepting donation of winter clothing only. Thank you for your support. If you have any questions call during business hours (703) 356-7420.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:** The Next St. John Knights of Columbus meeting will be Wednesday, February 7th at 8:00 pm in the Parish Hall, All perspective & current members are encouraged to attend.

St. John Institute of Catholic Culture Presents:  
(Saint John's Adult Education Program)

**WHO ARE YOU?**

**THE PERENNIAL QUESTION OF MANKIND**

- Dr. John Cuddeback -

Wednesdays through **Feb. 7**

8:00 pm (following Holy Hour)

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**SALVATION HISTORY BIBLE STUDY**

Tuesdays - Feb. 7, Feb. 14, and Feb. 20.

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**ISLAM**

- Dr. William Marshner -

**Saturday, Feb. 17**

9:30 - 10:30 - Islam: Its History & Leaders

10:45 - 11:30 - Allah & Yahweh, Friends or Foes?  
(Theological Considerations)

11:30 - 11:45 - Q & A

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**LITURGY OF THE HOURS**


"Lent Practicum" w/ Fr. Gripshover

**Sat. Feb. 24 at 9:30 am.**

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**QUESTIONS - CALL ST. JOHN'S OFFICE OF**  
**EVANGELIZATION @ 703-504-8733**

**Altar Server Schedule**



**Altar Servers**

**Novena/Mass: February 7, 2007**  
7:30 pm Sniezeks, Myer

**Saturday: February 10, 2007**  
8:15 am Hoernig, c. Earner, Berry  
5:00 pm Vigil C., J., Mike & Matt Katz

**Sunday Masses: February 11, 2007**  
7:30 am Hylton, P. Loria, Grady  
9:00 am Arevalos, Schaumburg, B. Evans  
10:30 am Mullers, Knises'  
12:00 pm Clark, Mehan, R. & J. Ludwick, J. & P. McCoy  
J. & D. McGiffin

 **Religious Education**

**FIRST PENANCE: Monday, Feb. 5th, 7:00-8:00 pm**

**SAINT JOHN ACADEMY**

**2007 PRO-LIFE ESSAY CONTEST:** Open for 7th - 12th graders in home, parochial, private or public schools. If you have Questions, call Dr. K. Maggio at 703-848-0273. Deadline is Feb. 18. Monetary prizes.



**GO EAGLES...** Please join us to support your team on Friday, February 9th when the St. John Academy Eagles take on The Heights School in an exciting basketball game. The pep rally begins at 2:00 pm with the big game beginning at 2:30 pm.

**Carpool on that day will be at 3:30 pm.** Students will be dismissed from the school at that time. If you must pick up your child before 3:30, please notify the school in advance so that your child can be dismissed from the gym.



**St. John Youth Corner**

Senior Youth Group Website- [www.sisyg.org](http://www.sisyg.org)  
**SENIOR YOUTH MEETING CHANGED TO SUNDAY, February 11TH at 7:00 pm**

The topic will be **LOLLIPOPS**. We will have *Open Gym and indoor soccer*. Pizza is the menu selection. Bring a friend to the meeting and **remember** to bring your signed permission slips for ski trip 2007! Questions? Call Sabatino at 703-504-8733.





**WEDNESDAYS NOVENA PRAYERS & ROSARY:** The Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers & Rosary begin at 7:10 pm The Eucharistic Holy Hour follows immediately at 7:30 pm All parishioners are encouraged to adore our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and pray to the Blessed Mother for world peace and conversion of hearts.

**ADORERS NEEDED:** Every Wednesday, First Friday and First Saturday of every month for Eucharistic Adoration. Contact Ann Thunder @703-442-0668 if you are able to **spend an hour with our Lord** or sign up for a specific hour on the ***Schedule of Adorers Roster*** in the vestibule of the church.



**HEAD USHER NAMED:** Mr. Greg Le Sage has agreed to take on the job of Head Usher. Greg is requesting a new recruit for the 7:30 am Mass on Sunday mornings. If you regularly attend that Mass and would like to have more information, or to submit your name for consideration for the position, please contact him at 703-738-4576.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
DATE Feb. 4, 2007	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>CCD PreK - K</b> 10:30 - 11:30 am 	<b>Sew &amp; So Forth</b> 9:45 am DR Rm  <b>CCD Gr. 1,2,3</b> 4:30 - 5:30 pm  <b>First Penance</b> <b>CCD</b> 7:00-8:00pm <b>Legion of Mary</b> 7:30 pm DR Rm	<b>CCD Gr. 1 - 8</b> 7:00 - 8:00 pm	Confessions 6:45 -7:15 pm <b>Novena Prayers &amp; Rosary</b> 7:10pm <b>Eucharistic Holy Hour</b> 7:30 pm	RCIA 7:00 pm Adult Ed  <b>St. John Choir</b> 7:30 pm		<b>Jr. Legion of Mary</b> 10:00am DR Rm

*From St. John's Office of Evangelization . . .*

## **DEFENDING THE FAITH**

On the second of February, Catholics throughout the world joined in the great feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple. Traditionally, this day was considered to be the conclusion of the Christmas season, and was celebrated with great solemnity. Having concluded our celebration of the Nativity, the feast of the Presentation now provides us with an opportunity to reflect soberly upon the mystery of the person of Jesus Christ.

Who is this man, to whom kings offer precious gifts? Who is this man, that angels sing his glory? Who is this man, that we celebrate his birth two thousand years later? For faithful followers of Christ, the answer is clear: he is the Savior of the World, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords. He is God from all eternity. But what does the world have to say about this man? All too often, when professing our faith in Jesus Christ, we are confronted with the "progressive" response that Christianity may be true for some, but that does not make it true for others. Again and again, we are told that we must keep our personal beliefs to ourselves, and that only fanatics believe that the message of Jesus Christ applies to everyone. In order to give a responsible answer to this charge, we must first understand the philosophical underpinnings of this argument.

Our pluralistic society has embraced a great philosophical error which endangers even the belief of many faithful Christians. This error is that of relativism (or radical subjectivism). It consists in the assertion that all truth is relative to the knower. In other words, truth is determined by the knowing subject (me and you) and not by the object known (in this case, Jesus). Radical subjective relativists will go so far as to deny any objectively existing reality, claiming that everything we know is actually a product (or dream/creation) of our minds. Thus, a tree is only a tree to me (a knower) and not necessarily to you (a different knower, who may in fact claim that the tree does not exist). The absurdity of this position needs no explanation (possibly the only cure for this is to bring the person into swift contact with the trunk of the tree). What does subjective relativism have to do with our belief about Jesus? If truth is determined by the knowing subject and not by the object known, then Jesus may be God for you and me, but not necessarily for others. Is this not the prevailing opinion of our age? As a quick response to this outrage, let us simply reflect upon our experience of reality.

## **DEFENDING THE FAITH CONTINUED**

When we speak in common parlance of truth and falsehood, we always are referring to the things we know. If what we know corresponds to the way things really are, then we may say that our perception is true. If our perception of a thing does not correspond to the way that the object really exists, we say that our perception is false. Notice, the object is the standard by which our knowledge is judged to be true or false, rather than the relativist's claim that all reality is a projection of the knowing mind. By claiming that reality is dependent upon the knower rather than the object, the subjective relativist claims that truth, if there is such a thing, is simply a projection of the mind, and is therefore different for everyone. In order to ground ourselves in reality, let us recall here a self-evident first principle of logic: a thing cannot exist, and not exist, at the same time, in the same way. A thing either is, and is this way, or it is not. It is the knower's duty to perceive the object correctly. Either Jesus is God, or he is not, and it is our duty to come to know him for who he is.

In response to the modern heresy of relativism, as it relates to our belief in Christ, we only need to turn to the sacred words of the Holy Scriptures, "In the beginning was the Word (Jesus), and the Word was with God, and **the Word was God**" (Jn 1:1). As we approach the Lenten season, let us reflect upon our perception of Christ. Is he God from all eternity as he claimed, and as the Church has always taught, or is he something else? He cannot be both. Truth does not contradict itself. As the prophet Simeon proclaimed as he beheld Jesus presented in the Temple, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel" (Lk 2:34). As we prepare ourselves for the journey of Lent, let us set Christ before us, that we who proclaim the truth about God may be numbered among those of Israel that will rise with him on the glorious day of the Resurrection.

Questions: Call Sabatino Carnazzo at the St. John the Beloved Office of Evangelization. (703-504-8733)



**THEY LEFT EVERYTHING  
AND FOLLOWED HIM.**

### *From the Music Desk...*

Thank you for the overwhelming response to last weeks column regarding interest in our volunteer choirs. Our Treble Choir is now at capacity, however, the adult volunteer choir still needs more members. Call the music office at 703-356-3639 for more information.

Musically in Christ ~ ~ ~ David Lang



### **REWARDING APOSTOLATE TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND OF OUR PARISH**

We are in need of volunteers to bring Holy Communion to the Sick and Homebound of our parish once a month after the 9:00am and 10:30am Sunday Masses.

These dedicated volunteers are known as "Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion" and this apostolate is among the most rewarding of all parish ministries. Through bringing Holy Communion and reading Holy Scripture to those most in need, you receive the special thanks and appreciation of the sick and suffering members of our parish family. Training at both the Diocesan and Parish levels is provided. We are happy to accommodate your personal schedule. Please contact the parish office for more information.



**OUR LADY OF FATIMA, SAVE PORTUGAL:** Next Sunday, February 11th, Portugal will vote on whether or not to legalize abortion through the first 10 weeks of pregnancy. Please pray every day that Our Lady will guide the hearts of the Portuguese people.

**SUNDAY & HOLY DAY CONTRIBUTIONS:** To make contributing to St. John the Beloved more convenient for our parishioners we can automatically debit your checking or savings account (EFT) from your own bank, or you may pay monthly with a credit card. If you are interested, call the parish office at 703-356-7916 for more information, or come by the office to fill out forms to start this process.

### ***In Our Area***

**GOT TEENS/ CONFERENCE:** The Offices of Youth Ministry, Catholic Schools, and Family Life are combining efforts on a new event for parents and their teens on February 10, 2007, at Paul VI High School. This is a family-wide event to improve communication between parents and their teens and help promote healthy Catholic families. Please encourage all families to attend. Full information and packets can also be found at:

[www.arlingtoncatholicyouth.org](http://www.arlingtoncatholicyouth.org)

### **CONFERENCES FOR THE ENGAGED FOR 2007**

will be held at Our Lady of Good Counsel on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The fees for 2007 are: \$65/first union in-diocese couple; \$75/second union in-diocese couple; and \$100/out-of-diocese couple. Couples may also pre-purchase a catered lunch for \$10 ea. using the new registration forms. All information for the 2007 conferences is available on-line at: [www.arlingtondiocese.org/offices/family/cfedates.html](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/offices/family/cfedates.html).

### **BISHOP DENNIS J. O'CONNELL, CLASS OF 1967**

is celebrating their 40th reunion the weekend of June 22 & 23, 2007. Friday we are planning a beer and pizza get-together on the busport at DJO from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Join us as well on Saturday from 1:00 - 5:00 at one of Virginia's most scenic wineries, Miracle Valley Vineyard, for an wonderful afternoon of fun, food and good company. Please watch the DJO Alumni web site for details as they develop. We are in the process of gathering email addresses for the Class of DJO Class of 1967. Please send us an email at [DJO40TH@aol.com](mailto:DJO40TH@aol.com) and give us your name and how we can reach you.

### **MOTHER/DAUGHTER OVERNIGHT RETREAT**

Spend a winter night getting closer to your daughter and to Christ! An overnight retreat led by Legionnaires of Christ for mothers and daughters who have made their First Communion and older will be held on Feb. 18. The evening includes spiritual and practical talks, craft activities, opportunity for confession, Eucharistic Adoration and Mass. Bring comfortable clothes and sleeping bags for the girls. \$95 per Mother/Daughter pair, \$20 for each additional Daughter. Begins Sunday at 5:00 pm and ends on Monday with lunch (Monday is the President's Day Holiday). Space is Limited! Register today!!

**THE CENTER FOR FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**  
7007 Bradley Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20817  
301-365-0612 [jnewstedt@bethesdaafd.org](mailto:jnewstedt@bethesdaafd.org)